

**Jesus Christ Always Wants to Shower Love on Us
(March 8, 2020 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)**

***The Lord Jesus' ultimate goal for us is to spend eternity loving us...

Scripture 1a: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing, O daughter of Zion!

Shout, O Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all *your* heart,

O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your judgments,
He has cast out your enemy.

The King of Israel, the LORD, *is* in your midst;

You shall ^fsee disaster no more.

¹⁶ In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Do not fear;

Zion, let not your hands be weak.

¹⁷ The LORD your God in your midst,

The Mighty One, will save;

He will rejoice over you with gladness,

He will quiet *you* with His love,

He will rejoice over you with singing.”

¹⁸ “I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly,

Who are among you,

To whom its reproach *is* a burden.

¹⁹ Behold, at that time

I will deal with all who afflict you;

I will save the lame,

And gather those who were driven out;

I will appoint them for praise and fame

In every land where they were put to shame.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you back,

Even at the time I gather you;

For I will give you ^gfame and praise

Among all the peoples of the earth,

When I return your captives before your eyes,”

Says the LORD.

Scripture 1: Revelation 21:3-8, 22-27

³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said ^[b]to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

⁶ And He said to me, “It^[c] is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes ^[d]shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸ But the cowardly, ^[e]unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine ^[i]in it, for the ^[m]glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. ²⁴ And the nations ^[n]of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor ^[o]into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into ^[p]it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything ^[q]that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Scripture 2: Revelation 22:1-17

And he showed me a ^[a]pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

The Time Is Near

⁶ Then he said to me, “These words *are* faithful and true.” And the Lord God of the ^[b]holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

⁷ “Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

⁸ Now I, John, ^[c]saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

⁹ Then he said to me, “See *that you do not do that*. ^[d]For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.” ¹⁰ And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him ^[e]be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”

Jesus Testifies to the Churches

¹² “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* ^[f]Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”

¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who ^[g]do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ ^[h]But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”

¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

***The Lord Jesus always has time for everyone, including the people who society thinks are not important...

Scripture 3: Mark 10:13-16

¹³ Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought *them*. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw *it*, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.” ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid *His* hands on them, and blessed them.

He wants to touch everyone...

Scripture 4: John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those ^[g]believing in Him would receive; for the ^[h]Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Scripture 5: John 16:7-22

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He ^[c]will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

Sorrow Will Turn to Joy

¹⁶ “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.”

¹⁷ Then *some* of His disciples said among themselves, “What is this that He says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me’; and, ‘because I go to the Father’?” ¹⁸ They said

therefore, “What is this that He says, ‘A little while’? We do not ^[d]know what He is saying.”

¹⁹ Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, “Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, ‘A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me’? ²⁰ Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. ²¹ A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.

There is a joy that no one can take from us unless we let them...

***The Lord Jesus is revealing to me how to keep and develop this joy in my life more and more...

It can be hard to walk in joy while we wait on this earth to be transported to heaven, where there will be no more suffering...

However, the Lord Jesus wants to shower us with His love so much that He makes it possible for us to walk in that joy unspeakable and fully glory that we have in Him...

One of the main keys to constant joy is walking in constant praise...

Scripture 6: Psalm 22:3

But You *are* holy,
Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

Scripture 7: Psalm 16:11

You will show me the path of life;
In Your presence *is* fullness of joy;
At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

When we devote ourselves to worshipping the Lord, we touch His heart...

How can we worship the Lord when we are working, studying, or doing chores?...

We can praise Him for His blessings whenever our focus can be off what we are doing...

When we are tired, we can praise Him for the strength to serve Him through what we are doing...

Scripture 8: Deuteronomy 8:11-18

¹¹ “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, ¹² lest—*when* you have eaten and are ^[e]full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell *in them*; ¹³ and *when* your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are ^[f]multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; ¹⁴ when your heart ^[g]is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; ¹⁵ who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, *in which* were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end— ¹⁷ then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’

¹⁸ “And you shall remember the LORD your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may ^[h]establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day.

Scripture 9: Colossians 3:23-24

²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for^[a] you serve the Lord Christ.